

## QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

From Rev. Russell F. Pederson, Wrangell, Alaska

Church First Presbyterian Church of Wrangell, Alaska

Date July 1, 1940

NOTE—This quarterly news letter is to be written in addition to all other reports. Use it for reporting the outstanding experience or experiences during the past three months in your church.

A visitor from the States asked whether we actually believe that missionary work is worth while. I would like to give you in this letter a few of our experiences which may help you to answer such questions with positive proof that we are having the happiest kind of life in serving our Saviour in Alaska.

Souls are finding their Saviour. We had the pleasure of helping four of our Wrangell Institute girls come to the knowledge of the love of Jesus Christ and take their public stand. Two of the girls were from Kodiak, and they have proven in the past weeks that they wish to know the Bible and are willing to do their work so well that their light will shine so that others may see their good works and be led to glorify their Father in heaven. One of them wrote a beautiful letter since she went home. Her mother had a paralytic stroke and Katie had to leave school early. She is helping with her living faith. The other two girls were from the Interior. They had heard the message many times, and we had the opportunity to guide them in the important step of public profession. A young man from Oklahoma came to our community last month, and we are thankful that he has answered his mother's prayers by deciding to live the Christian faith. He had to come to Alaska to turn to Christ. He has fallen in love with Christ through Proverbs 3:5,6; I John 5:11, and Romans 10:9,10. Mrs. Pederson and I are rejoicing that three of our children, two boys and a girl, took their stand and have been received by the Session, and will be publicly received at the next Communion Service, July 7th.

All aboard the "Betty" for the Boy Scout Camp. Nine years effort with the Boy Scouts has brought results. We have interested the community in support of the troop. One of our Elders is the Scoutmaster, and the American Legion is assisting with the Troop Committee. I have had the privilege of being Troop Committee Chairman. We had a grand time at Anita Bay where the Scouts set up camp, did their own cooking, passed tests which included swimming. The leaders enjoyed the camp as much as the boys. We started a Girl Scout Troop which has become a Community organization. One of the school teachers is giving the girls splendid leadership.



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Page two

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NOTE—This quarterly news letter is to be written in addition to all other reports. Use it for reporting the outstanding experience or experiences during the past three months in your church.

June 3rd and 4th we witnessed a Potlatch which revived the old life of the Indian people. That celebration was started by the Forestry Dept. We can see why the missionaries of early days wanted the Potlatch abolished, and we know that they realized a victory when the Indians gave up their old customs. After witnessing the dances and other ceremonials, we could well understand the statement of bewilderment on the part of some of the Indians who said they were told by both government and missionary people to give up their tribal life and customs and take up the new civilization, but now the government people are urging them to spend time carving totems and setting up tribal relationships with the elevation of one of their number as Chief Shakes. It seems to me to be a mistake to revive the old dances. Some Christian Indians expressed their disappointment. Many of the Indians thought they were to be paid a considerable sum of money for practicing their former ceremonial dances and giving the Potlatch this year. They were disappointed, and we hope they were sufficiently disappointed that it will not be repeated. Thank God for the faithful missionaries of those early days who risked their life in bravely facing the participants of witchcraft and superstition to present the living and true God.

"When will Vacation School start?" Our Annual Vacation Bible School was held June 10 to 21 and the Community thanked us for the profitable opportunity. Enclosed you will find a picture of one of the girls who walked four miles in order to attend. This girl had never had the opportunity to attend Sunday School or other Bible study. She had come to a class in which her mother became interested last winter. Lenore left her dog at home and trudged those miles because we had given her a glimpse of a new privilege.. The boys and girls worked harder than usual in their determination to excell in Scripture memorization. We had a very good Bible teacher who held the girls interest every day. Our leader in music could whistle as well as sing and direct. She prepared the children for the Children's Day program. We felt that this year's Children's Day program arrangement was one of the best the Board has offered, and our children presented all of it with enthusiasm. A new member from Seattle directed the girls in clever hand craft.

The Alaska was due at 2:30 a.m. Are you going to meet the boat at that hour. Yes, and the morning light was bright because on the 17th of June we have almost no night. We met Mr. Walter Soboleff, the new missionary for the Memorial Presbyterian Church in Juneau. His mother and sister who live in Wrangell, proud as can be of the son and brother who has studied so faithfully and prepared himself for the greatest calling in the world, were at the dock to meet the boat. We all had a fine visit. The next week I went to Juneau to help Mr. and Mrs. Soboleff with their adjustments on the new field. Our conviction is that this young Thlingit pastor and his Hyda wife will prove strong members of the missionary staff in the Presbyterian work in Alaska.



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Page 3

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NOTE—This quarterly news letter is to be written in addition to all other reports. Use it for reporting the outstanding experience or experiences during the past three months in your church.

Enroute to Juneau, the Steamer Steward requested me to give a sermon to the observation room assembly of passengers. There were some Christian people on board who made the request that I speak to them. It was a real privilege. We had no song sheets, but there were many people aboard who knew the Gospel hymns and the boat pianist could play them for she had an old Presbyterian hymnal. I think that I'll give a Praise and Service hymnal to the pianists on the several steamers so they may be prepared. After the service some thirty passengers asked me to go to another room to show them snap shots and answer their questions.

This evening a woman from Indiana came up to the Church to see our plant and learn about missions. She said she had been disappointed in not seeing more of the missionaries. Seems that she did not know how to find the churches in the other towns, but she saw our Neon-Cross and was told that it marked the First Presbyterian Church, the First American Church in Alaska. How happy she was to have a folder and some facts relative to the Wrangell Church. We took time to tell her about the other fields, and we feel that she left with a glow of appreciation in her heart.

Mrs. Pederson and I are finding it difficult to get ready to leave for our year out. We are praying that a supply missionary may be on the field before we leave, July 30th. At this time of the year it is most difficult to secure leaders because all available men, women and young people are working in the canneries. They must make the most of the short season.

*Enclosed is a check for \$7<sup>25</sup>, the Wrangell Children's Day offering to the Board of National Missions. 7/16/40*



NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS  
REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER  
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS  
REV. VERNE J. SWANSON  
HYDABURG, ALASKA

## PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
REV. E. E. KNUDSEN  
SKAGWAY, ALASKA

PENSIONS  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

Box 275  
Wrangell

July 2nd 1940

Dear Dr. King:

Herewith you will find the proposition made by Mr and Mrs William L. Paul in connection with the Juneau Manse.

This is plainly a rental proposition. I am sending a copy of Mr Paul's proposal to Mr. Shattuck to learn his judgment as to whether it is worth while.

My own immediate reaction is to not accept it because the property would be tied up with neither assurance of sale nor opportunity to sell.

It would be a fine contract for Mr. Paul's interest, but does not provide much for the Board.

I have not replied to Mr. Paul because I thought you would like to know all proposals before any rejection is made.

We have had no other bids or proposals on the sale of the Juneau Manse.

Mr. Shattuck told me that Juneau is in a serious situation with the danger of the closing of the Alaska-Juneau Mine. Property transactions may be slow and far between on account of the unsettled condition prevailing in that particular community. People are not buying.

It may be that the wise thing will be to rent the property without a contract of sale.

Sincerely,

*Ans - by air-mail -*

*Russell F. Pederson*

*unless we have to do so my judgment is that we should not rent or lease the property - even tho' we must sacrifice the property - I think it best to sell -*

*Cordially,*



July 5, 1940

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
Box 275  
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I am glad you placed the Juneau manse on the market. It seems to me you have it priced reasonably and that it should sell.

The plan to provide living quarters for the Soboleffs in the church sounds good, however, nothing can be done about this until after Board meeting in October. Please send a carefully prepared estimate of cost (labor, material, etc.) and I shall present the plan to the Board.

As to the requests for immediate furnishings, I am sorry to say that at present the Alaskan budget is in the red over \$700; therefore, I can not issue any more checks. My suggestion is that the needed furnishings be purchased and you or Soboleff make a note for the amount. After the Board meeting in October the amount will be refunded. This is the best we can do now.

Cordially yours,

EBK:DH

cc- Rev. Walter Soboleff  
Juneau, Alaska

ALASKA



NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS  
REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER  
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS  
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REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

Box 275  
Wrangell  
July 6, 1940

Dear Dr. King:

Your letter informing us that Mrs. Taggart and party will be on the "Columbia" has been received, and Mrs. Pederson and I will do our best to make her visit to Wrangell both interesting and profitable.

The Elders of the Wrangell Church are constantly inquiring whether we know who is to be the supply missionary while we are out on our year south. I have had to tell them that I do not know, but that we hope he will be here by the first of August.

In regular Session meeting the Elders requested me to write another letter suggesting the urgency of early arrival of the missionary.

If it should happen that the missionary is not coming for a month or even less time, someone must be placed in the manse to avoid damage and loss.

The Adventists and Pentacostal folks are getting ready for a drive, and they'll make the greater headway if our field is vacant.

Furthermore, the church building should be open and someone on the job to greet the many tourist visitors who are coming each boat. Again and again Presbyterians from different States tell me that they have not been able to find the churches or else the missionaries were not around. We have tried to make this church a greeting place for the visitors.

May God bless and lead you with your many burdens.

Sincerely,

*We are getting everything  
set so we may sail  
July 30.*

*Russell F. Pederson*



J uly 10, 1940

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
Box 275  
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I am at a loss to know how the report started about Daniel Kaiper. I have had no word from him and have certainly not written to him. Please clear your mind,- there is no thought of sending him back to Alaska.

As I said in my other letter, it will be necessary to secure Board action for the work in Juneau and I have so written Walter Soboleff.

If we can realize \$5,000 from the Juneau manse I think that will be a good trade. You accept offers and submit them for approval by our Building Committee.

I am glad you see Bromley as I do. He is a wonderful man, a great soul and a true Christian, but he would not fit into Ketchikan.

Cordially yours,

EBK:DH

cc- W. Leslie Yaw  
Sitka, Alaska

ALASKA



July 18, 1940

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
Box 275  
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

Unless we have to do so, my judgement is that we should not rent or lease the manse in Juneau. Even though we must sacrifice the property, I think it best to sell.

Cordially yours,

EKK:DH



NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

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METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK  
REV. ALFRED D. SWOGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

Box 275  
Wrangell  
July 18th, 1940

Dear Dr. King:

Enclosed you will find checks as follows totalling \$66.70 which amount is designated for the fund for the replacement of the mission boat M/s Princeton: \$5.00; \$8.00; \$26.00; \$6.00 and \$21.70. This \$66.70 was received by me while on the tour with the Howard L. Brown party.

On our arrival at Hoonah, I had announced that we would have a church service in the Presbyterian Church one and a half miles distant from the cannery where the steamer docked. Mr. Brown encouraged his party to attend and several others came along. In that service I told of the Presbyterian Mission work in Alaska and brought to their attention the loss of the Princeton. They made an offering of \$22.70 in the service.

Two days later I was much surprised to hear the announcement made aboard ship that some of the party interested in the Princeton wished to make another contribution, and they made out a form such as you find herewith in which 44 shares were taken, and others said they would mail a contribution at a later date. I duplicated the form and acknowledged receipt of the cash to be forwarded to the Board.

We were surprised by the large number of Presbyterians travelling on the S. S. Alaska. I believe that the above \$66.70 is but the beginning of a real financial interest which will be shown by churches represented.

So many people thanked me for travelling with them and helping them to appreciate the Presbyterian Mission program in Alaska that I honestly believe that accompanying tours is very much worth while as a Promotional effort.

For your record I wish to state that not one cent of cash was received by me for personal gain. This was a missionary venture in which I believe.

While travelling with the tour I was able to contact many of our missionaries and they seemed to be glad to have the visit. Rev. Mr. Wheeler made a fine impression on the tour as he led in the cordial welcome given by his church and the Haines House staff. The party made a contribution for Haines House.

Now I am packing. We are all set for going south on July 30th. Members of the congregation are asking who is to serve in Wrangell and when he will arrive. I have to tell that I know not. Hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson



## THE GOLD MINE OF THE SKY UNLIMITED

This certifies that \_\_\_\_\_ is the owner and purchaser of \_\_\_\_\_ share of the capital stock of the corporation, "The Gold Mine of the Sky, Unlimited, at \$1.00 per share.

Dr. H. F. Grantvedt, having accidentally, but fortunately, stumbled on the shaft of the Lost Hope Mine near Ghost City, Alaska, and finding valuable nuggets thereat, does hereby consent to participation by fellow travellers of the S. S. Alaska.

The following constitute the board of officers and directors:

President,	B. W. Woods	Directors
V. P.	Geo. Snyder	Joseph Miller
Secy.	Mae Dunlap	Deacon, E. M. Cone
Treas.	C. H. Andrew	Catherine Missetter
		Miss L. Lonagan

Legal Adviser--Judge Martin De Vries

"Sourdough Parson Russell Pederson is authorized to apply money received to the development of the Gold Mine of the Sky."

Received the cash as indicated above to forward to the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., to be applied to building a boat to replace the M/s Princeton.



## Historical Data

August 10, 1877: Mrs. Amanda R. McFarland and Dr. Sheldon Jackson reached Fort Wrangel and commenced Presbyterian missions in Alaska.

August 28, 1877: Mrs. McFarland opened a school for women and girls.

August 1878: Rev. S. Hall Young arrived and began his missionary pastorate.

October 12, 1878: "The McFarland Home," school and home for girls was established.

S. Hall Young wrote in his Autobiography: "The third of August, 1879, is one of my unforgettable dates. After all the expeditions, sightseeing, planning for the church and the new McFarland Home, feasts and counsels with the Indians, this was the day when we gathered up the riper fruits of two years' seed-growing and organized the first Protestant church of Alaska. It was also the first American church of the Territory. No organization had been perfected previous to this in Alaska, except the old Russian Greek Church."

October 5, 1879: the Presbyterian Church building was occupied for the first time.

October 17, 1930: the original Presbyterian Church building was destroyed by fire, a total loss including the bell, fragments of which were later gathered and recast.

October 4, 1931: the present Presbyterian Church building was first used as a place of worship.

June 12, 1932: The Church was dedicated as a Memorial to Pioneer Christian Service, Dr. Arthur H. Limouze of the Board of National Missions delivering the sermon.



**First Presbyterian Church  
Wrangell, Alaska**

**Rev. Russell F. Pederson, Pastor**



NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV RUSSELL F. PEDERSON CA.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS  
REV JACKSON L. WEBSTER CA.  
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS  
REV DONALD G. CHRISTIANSEN CA.  
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

## PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
REV EDWIN E. KNUDSEN CA.  
BRANDT, ALASKA  
PENSIONS  
REV ALFORD D. SWOOGER, Act. CA.  
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA  
STATED CLERK (Acting)  
REV ALFORD D. SWOOGER  
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

Box 275  
Wrangell  
July 22nd 1940

Dear Dr. King:

Enroute with the tour on the S.S. Alaska, I had an opportunity for further conference with Mr. Walter Soboleff, and have talked with him concerning the "carefully prepared estimate of cost (labor, material, etc.)" which you requested in connection with providing living quarters for the Soboleffs in the church.

Mr. Soboleff has promised to prepare that estimate and forward the same to you direct.

Were it possible for the Board to finance the purchase of materials and authorize Mr. Soboleff to go forward with the preparation of the quarters now, he could save the Board considerable money. Mr. Soboleff is a good all around man, able to do things with his hands. During August and the first half of September he will have considerable free time. His people will be out to cannery and other camps up till the 15th of September.

I told Mr. Soboleff that I would write the above to you because he is eager to go ahead and have quarters more restful and convenient before the winter's work begins.

Herewith you will find an expense voucher for \$21.08 for repairs to the plumbing and water line in the Wrangell manse. I had done only that which was absolutely necessary. The water line plugged up with rust and growth and a section broke. Before another year has passed, it will be necessary to replace the hot water tank. We have had trouble with it. The balance in the grant for sewer replacement covers this expenditure. Campbell Brothers paid the labor so that your office would have but one check to mail, and you will note that they kindly gave a 10% discount on the material.

We are having fine attendance in the church service, and our prayer is that the church may be supplied very soon so that interest may be continued. Please keep in mind that Wrangell has no teachers to carry on the work, and all our men Elders are away. The leadership problem is the difficult situation here.

We are praying that you may be blessed and guided in your important work.

Sincerely,

*Russell F. Pederson*

*We are sailing south July 30th.*



August 8, 1940

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
Care, Mr. Gene C. Gould  
1204 American Bank Building  
Seattle, Washington

Dear Mr. Pederson:

In Albuquerque, New Mexico, there is a small vacant church that is interested in having you supply for them for twelve months.

The University of New Mexico is located in Albuquerque and you would have the opportunity to take some university work. This city would also offer you an ideal place for sunshine. In case you should decide, or the decision should be made for you, not to return to Alaska, you would have this double advantage.

All transportation expenses for you and family would be taken care of from California to New Mexico.

I believe this is something worth your prayerful consideration. Please let me know as soon as possible your reaction.

Cordially yours,

LBK:DH

cc- Rev. Dr. Wm. M. Orr  
1005 W. Marquette  
Albuquerque, N. Mex.



August 18, 1940

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
Care, Mr. Gene G. Gould  
1204 American Bank Building  
Seattle, Washington

Dear Mr. Pederson:

The contributions totaling \$66.70 which you received and transmitted to us for replacement of the "Princeton" were indeed a generous expression of the interest of the Howard L. Brown party. We are glad to know you have acknowledged receipt of these gifts.

Upon Dr. King's return to the office the end of this month we shall bring your letter to his attention. I am sure he, too, will be delighted with the interesting report of your tour with this party.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. King

HEW:DH



NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS  
REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER  
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS  
REV. VERNE J. SWANSON  
HYDABURG, ALASKA

## PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
REV. E. E. KNUDSEN  
DHAWAY, ALASKA

PENSIONS  
REV. ALFRED D. SWOGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK  
REV. ALFRED D. SWOGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

1107 East 7th

Spokane, Wash  
Aug 15, 1940

Dear Dr King:

Your air mail of the 8<sup>th</sup> was forwarded to me in Spokane, and we do thank you for the Albuquerque opportunity. But after careful and prayerful consideration, we do not consider it wise for us to make such a decided change of climate and altitude. Our family physician recommends that we go on to California where the climate will be much more suitable for Mrs Pederson and the children.

Our doctor has recommended a Los Angeles physician for a complete going over. I am receiving my new reading glasses today.

We have rented a house in Glendale and made arrangements for our oldest boy to attend Junior College in Glendale. The other children will be near a very good school.

We expect to reach Glendale Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, and will be settled in a few days.

Rev H. K. Shaffer of the Transview Community Presbyterian Church, Glendale, requested me to spend Sept 6-10 with his group of 50 or more young people in a retreat near Redlands, California. I accepted because the conference will be over before the schools open. He asked me to "paint in the picture of Alaskan Christian work."

In Seattle I showed pictures and spoke to a large congregation in the West Seattle Pres. Church, and in Spokane gave an address to a Vacation Bible School in connection with a display of a few of my curios.

Dr Reid of Occidental College and Dr Stein of the First Pres. Church of Glendale are advising me to take



Bible courses in Los Angeles. Expect to confer with them on arrival in California.

am scheduled to speak Aug 25<sup>th</sup> at the Pleasanton Baptist Church, California.

Our next mail address will be

"in care of H. L. Brown

502 Hiawatha Bldg

Los Angeles, Cal."

I am not certain of the residence address at this time.

In Wrangell the people were much concerned because they had no news as to a supply minister. I arranged for a student to fill the pulpit and assist with Sunday school during Sept & August. He is leaving Wrangell, Aug 31<sup>st</sup>. He was acceptable to the church and agreed to live in the manse and give general oversight for \$5.00 a week. I asked the church to pay that amount with the understanding that the Board would reimburse because the church agreed to follow your recommendation of their paying me the usual \$20.00 per month toward salary.

I do hope you will soon have a strong worker for the Wrangell field. Other denominations are watching our fields.

I want to cooperate with you in every way, and you can depend on me to serve as soon as the family gets settled in Glendale.

With prayer that God may guide and bless you in your important position

Sincerely, Russell F. Edmunds

Handwritten note on left margin: Mrs. Edmunds speaking on Sunday, Aug 19<sup>th</sup> 1907 at 11:07 AM, speaking, 11:07 AM.



NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS  
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## PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

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BRAGWAY, ALASKA

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REV. ALFRED D. SWOGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK  
REV. ALFRED D. SWOGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
Sept 5, 1940

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. King:

The Pedersons have arrived in Glendale and Mrs. Pederson is pleased with the house a friend helped us to locate. The younger children are right near their school and our oldest son, Robert, is not too far from Glendale Junior College to which he has sent his application.

I am going over to the University of Southern California to secure their catalog this afternoon, and am expecting to follow your recommendation to take as much Bible study as possible. Three Presbyterian pastors in this district suggested U S C as desirable.

In your letter of June 20th you stated that you were notifying the Promotional Department of my expected time in California, and "the Board will expect you to give at least half of your time to promotional work." I would like to know just how the time is to be divided. Will you wish me to give week ends or take certain months?

The Grandview Community Presbyterian Church of Glendale is having their young peoples' retreat, the 6th to the 11th, and I feel that the invitation to teach a course is an opportunity. I can learn more about young people's organized work and its successful accomplishment as well as do a service to the church and the Board. The First Presbyterian Church of Glendale has asked me to speak at a luncheon the 17th. That will be a 30 minute opportunity. I suppose that more requests will be coming along, but I do not want to accept any more dates until I hear from you or the Promotional Department.

I do appreciate this opportunity which you have secured for me, and my prayer is that my study may prepare me for the service which our Lord Jesus Christ offers.

Am enclosing a check for \$22.00. In your letter of April 23rd you stated that you could get me a Royal De Luxe Portable Quiet \$64.50 typewriter for \$42.00. I would like to have this in Elite type. It can be sent by either Express or parcel post.

May God bless and use you. We are with you in prayer for the Alaska fields.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

*Mr. Pederson's check \$42.00  
9/12/40  
in typewriter  
for Mr. Pederson*



September 9, 1940

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California

Dear Pederson:

I have your check for \$42 and we will try to send the typewriter within the next few days.

I am today sending to Mr. Chappel your permanent address and you will hear from him direct about your work under the Promotional Department.

I shall be interested in knowing the courses you are able to take in the University.

Cordially yours,

EEK:DH

ALASKA



NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS  
REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER  
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS  
REV. VERNE J. SWANSON  
HYDABURG, ALASKA

## PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

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METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
September 15, 1940

Dear Dr. King:

Thank you for the reply about the typewriter. Am anticipating some pleasure in writing with a good machine.

In reply to your inquiry as to the courses which I am taking at the University of Southern California, I will list them:

- 3 hours a week "Old Testament Analysis"
- 3 hours a week "The Gospels"
- 2 hours , "Seminar in Religious Education"
- 2 hours, "Religious and Social Reconstruction"
- 3 hours, "Theory and Principles of Pastoral Counseling"
- 2 hours, "Medical Information for Ministers"

The University of Southern California is so large that it takes considerable time for enrollment. I was pleased that they require a strong physical examination. Hope to complete that examination this coming week.

Our son, Robert is registered at Glendale Junior College where we believe that he will have some fine associations. He has taken quite an interest in young people's groups of two Presbyterian Churches. We are glad that the Junior high school is near our residence and the next three attend there. Our six year old daughter attends school two blocks distant.

Yesterday we had a long letter from the Clerk of the Session of the Wrangell Church. They enjoyed the student we picked up for a supply during the month of August, but they are troubled about leadership from now on. Mrs. Josephine E. Mason was wondering why they had received no word at all from anyone connected with the Board. Although you may have no one scheduled for Wrangell, I hope that you will write Mrs. Mason to let her know, and the church through her, that the Wrangell Presbyterian Church hasnot been forgotten.

We did our best to arrange for lay leadership, but this season of the year demands leadership or there will be a loss of opportunity. Wrangell with her community as well as the Indian School outside of town is too valuable a field to leave vacant. I believe that Wrangell is one of the most important fields in the Territory. As earlier noted, the 7th Day Adventists and some other organizations are getting busy.

Will enclose a clipping on the subject of the mission boat. We need a good publicity man in connection with our Presbyterian mission boat. This item was in the latest Wrangell Sentinel.

We are praying for God's guidance for you.

Sincerely,  
Russell F. Pederson



Russell + Pedron

309 Merwin Road

Glendale, Calif

4/14/40

42. - of glendale

Royal La Rye Portable  
Quiet Typewriter - Elite Top

Mr. C. B. Steele  
Room 313, Bldg of the  
purchase to be made through  
Mr. C. B. Steele  
Room 313, Bldg of the  
purchase to be made through

Mr. C. B. Steele,

Room 313, Bldg of the



309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
Sept 17, 1940

Dear Dr King,

Enclosed is check for \$12.00 endorsed to the Board which amount is designated specifically for the finishing of living quarters in the Memorial Presbyterian Church of Juneau, Alaska.

Please have Mr Soboleff acknowledge receipt of this amount to the donor:

Miss Helen Lightfoot  
3520 West 59th St

Los Angeles, California.

Please order for me the following two books so that I may have the missionary discount. I am anxious to have them at the earliest possible time. Therefore please rush the order

"A Harmony of the Synoptic Gospels in English"  
by Ruston + Goodspeed - Scribner

"Essentials of Bible History"  
by Mould - Nelson

I will be glad to send check as soon as you send me the bill.

Am finding studies a real challenge.

Sincerely,

Frederick F. Pederson

Also enclosing check for \$2.00, amount given by Frances Pickett + Virginia Miller of Los Angeles for Mission Trust for Alaska. Result of Tour in July



September 21, 1940

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, Calif.

Dear Pederson:

Thank you for the two checks, the \$12.00 check to be used on the Memorial Church in Juneau, and the \$2.00 check for the mission boat. These two items have been duly credited.

On October 11th, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Champlin from Reserve, New Mexico, will sail for Wrangell to be there as supply. I suppose before this time you have already heard from Mr. Champlin. I feel that these fine young people will satisfy the needs of your church. Mr. Champlin is an ordained minister, and has been serving as Sunday School Missionary for the past five years.

We are about ready to let the contract for the new boat. Of the total cost of \$29,500, we have cash on hand \$17,000. This represents the \$16,000, collected on the insurance money on "The Princeton" together with \$1,000, received from unsolicited sources. The Board has granted me permission to solicit funds throughout the church. Therefore, I am saying to you that in your contacts it would be worth while for you to make special appeals for this boat. You will send your contributions directly to me. In case a church or individual wants credit on their benevolence quota, you can assure them that this credit will be given. Please be careful to make note of any such request, so that it can be properly cared for here.

Your course at the University of Southern California sounds most interesting. I am sure it will be a helpful spiritual tonic for you and to you.

Cordially yours,

RBK:R



NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS  
REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER  
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS  
REV. VERNE J. SWANSON  
HYDABURG, ALASKA

## PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
REV. E. E. KNUDSEN  
SKAGWAY, ALASKA

PENSIONS  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
Sept 26, 1940

Dear Dr. King:

Your letter of the 21st is much appreciated.

Mrs. Pederson and I are thankful that you have found a missionary couple to supply at Wrangell. We have not heard from them. Very likely he felt he had sufficient information without further inquiry. We'll be remembering them in prayer.

I am much interested in the new boat, and am willing to do all I can in promotional work to secure the necessary funds. Are the plans the same as you sent some months ago? Where is the boat to be built and who is supervising the construction? All the information you care to give will prove helpful. Having had 17 years boat experience in Alaska, I cannot help inquiring into detail so as to be able to do more than say a new boat is being built. People who may be interested in parting with their cash for boat missionary work want to know all they can find out. Therefore I am certain you will not mind this inquiry.

So far I have heard no word from the Promotional Department. Am preaching Sunday morning, the 30th, at Occidental College and Sunday evening the 6th of October at the Grandview Community Presbyterian Church, and showing pictures and speaking at the First Presbyterian Church of Glendale, Oct 9th.

This coming Saturday night I am invited to a rally of tourists who were to Alaska the ~~past~~ summer. Some of them made a contribution to Presbyterian work while up north. They will be interested and may be persuaded to do more. We'll ~~see~~ see.

A few days ago I requested that you order two books for me so that I could have the missionary discount. The books were: "A Harmony of the Synoptic Gospels by Burton & Goodspeed"--Scribners  
"Essentials of Bible History by Mould"--Nelson

would you please send me an airmail letting me know when I may expect the books? Also would be pleased to know when the typewriter may be along. Am using an old Remington while I am anticipating the new Royal.

use

May God bless and you and your staff in bringing great blessings to Alaska.

Sincerely, <sup>m</sup>

*Russell F. Pederson*



October 1, 1940

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California

Dear Mr. Pederson:

Your letter of September 26 arrived after Dr. King had left for a Synod's visitation trip from which he will return the latter part of this month.

With reference to the new boat for Alaska I wish to say that it has not been definitely decided where the boat will be built nor who will supervise the construction. By the time Dr. King returns there may be more definite information available.

Dr. King notified Mr. Chappel, of our Board, that you would be available for promotional work and asked him to communicate directly with you concerning any appointments. When Mr. Chappel has any information for you I am sure he will communicate directly with you.

The new typewriter was ordered September 16 and we have been trying to get information from the factory about the date of shipment. As soon as we hear, we shall inform you. We are doing everything possible to expedite delivery to you.

Likewise, we placed an order for the books you requested and we are awaiting definite information concerning the date of shipment. These orders were placed promptly and we are sorry, indeed, for any delay in getting the supplies to you.

With cordial good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

HEW:EH

Secretary to Dr. King



309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
October 3rd, 1940

Dear Miss Wolf:

Thank you for your letter of the 1st.

The typewriter came and it seems to be a fine machine. I am thankful for your part in securing this machine for me.

The two books came and I am anticipating the bill. No hurry about that. Plenty of bills come along to use all our cash.

The courses at the University of Southern California are making me work, and I am finding stimulation as well as inspiration in each of them. These weeks of study should mean much to my ministry. The Seminar on Christian Education is one of the best. In that course I am taking on a project study which will include some of the local churches and their Christian Education program.

October 18th, I expect to go to San Diego for the day. The Missionary Society of the First Presbyterian Church of San Diego gave me the invitation to speak to their group which will include some of the Presbyterial of that part of California. Am showing some of my pictures, movies which were taken while we were in various activities.

We are thankful that the mission boat subject is getting attention for a boat is needed for Alaska providing a good crew is made available.

I hope that the plans include a room which will be a good study and allow the missionary a satisfactory place for his books and other equipment. The old Princeton had a forward room but it was always wet. The seas would sand water over the decks and up on the pilot house to trickle water down in that cabin. I believe the missionary needs a deck room which can be a real study and private room.

Am much interested because I served with both the "A.L.Lindsley" and the "M/s Princeton." Those seventeen years of boat life in Alaska helped me to realize some of the necessities. Though on land much of the time, I made so many trips that I knew the life of those who were the boat missionaries.

Thank you for your letter. Sincerely,

*Russell F. Peterson*



NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS  
REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER  
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS  
REV. VERNE J. SWANSON  
HYDABURG, ALASKA

## PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
REV. E. E. KNUDSEN  
SKAGWAY, ALASKA

PENSIONS  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
October 7th, 1940

Dr. Everett B. King  
156 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:

Your second letter on the subject of Insurance through the Presbyterian Ministers Fund reached me yesterday.

Am enclosing an application filled out as of Sept 2/40. You may note that I left question #5 unanswered, and that is because I do not understand how to answer.

I wish that I knew more about the policy. Does this policy pay anything if anything happens to me before 65 years of age? Is this like a regular insurance policy. Are there any disability or incapacity benefits?

This application was not forwarded before because of the uncertainty of the future. Your letter indicating possibilities of a change caused me to wonder whether I should apply for an insurance policy at this time since it applies only to Alaska missionaries.

In case you decide that I should not serve as a Missionary in Alaska, would the policy still be in effect?

The Pedersons' present financial condition is not so good. With our family of five children we have had no easy task to make ends meet in Alaska. You realize that the missionaries with families have had the same salary as those with no dependents, and that has meant little savings. Just now we are spending more than we are receiving because we are having to pay \$37 a month house rent and the field to date has not sent the agreed field support of \$20 per month. That is likely because no supply worker arrived following our departure. After the middle of October the situation may change. We are waiting for a reply from Wrangell.

Is there any likelihood that you may be in this part of the United States this winter? I have wished for opportunity to talk with you. It seems to me that we might get acquainted and have an understanding of hopes and plans for the future providing we had some time to actually converse.

We are in touch with Dr. Glenn Moore of Los Angeles Presbytery. Am speaking in the First Pres. Church, Glendale, tomorrow night, in the Vermont Avenue Pres. Church, Los A., the 17th and in San Diego the 18th.

In addition to my study at the University of Southern California, Mrs. Pederson and I plan to study in Miss Chaffee's six weeks class in Teaching Methods of Jesus of Los Angeles Presbytery beginning next week. We anticipate the privilege of attending the three day Youth Conference Oct 25 to 27 in Immanuel Pres. Church, Los A. Mrs. Pederson is receiving some valuable contacts. She is attending the district Presbyterial, the 9th.

We wish to work with you and that is the reason why we have the desire to know you and your plans for Alaska. You are in our prayer.

Sincerely,

*Russell F. Pederson*



October 6, 1940

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California

Dear Mr. Pederson:

We are glad to have your letter of October 3 and to learn that you have received your typewriter and books. Enclosed is our bill for the two books we ordered for you. We have allowed you the usual 25 percent discount, since the books are for your personal use.

It is good to know that you are finding such satisfaction in the course you are taking at the University of Southern California.

We shall be glad to bring your suggestions concerning the Alaska boat to Dr. King's attention upon his return to the office. With cordial good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. King

HEW:DE  
Enclosure



309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
October 12, 1940

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. King:

In my letter of October 7th I commented on not having received the \$20 per month from the Wrangell field. Have just received notice from the bank that the Wrangell Presbyterian Church made deposit, October fourth, of \$20.00 to my credit for August salary.

Am enclosing check for \$3.68 to cover the bill for the two books you ordered for me. Thank you for saving me \$1.22 besides the California sales tax of 15%.

California temperature is rising. Yesterday was hot and oppressive and the promise is for hotter weather before the day is over. The nights are cool.

Sincerely,

*Russell F. Henderson*



NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS  
REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER  
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS  
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HYDABURG, ALASKA

## PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
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SEADWAY, ALASKA

PENSIONS  
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METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
October 15th 1940

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. King:

Along with a report of month just passed, I must add a word about one of the men with which you became acquainted in Alaska.

Am quoting from a news clipping: "Seattle, Oct 11, Mayor F. S. Barnes, Wrangell, Alaska, who was clawed by a grizzly bear in the Alaska wilderness Sunday, died here today as his son flew west from New York to his bedside."

The Barnes family meant much to the Wrangell Church. Both Mr. and Mrs. Barnes were members and were good supporters. Their daughter, Dorisanne, had been a cheerful and helpful organist. Mr. Frank Barnes came to see me while I was sick last February, and at that time he told me of the fine impression you made on him. He wanted to help you as much as possible. Your name means something in the Barnes home, and I know that they thought of you often.

Mrs. Pederson and I are having a busy time. Along with the U S C classes we have added a course given by the Presbytery of Los Angeles, "The Methods of Jesus, the Teacher." We are anticipating the Youth Conference the last of this month at the Emmanuel Church. This Thursday I am speaking at the Vermont Ave Presbyterian Church in the afternoon, attending the USC Westminster Club in the evening. Then I am going to San Diego for Friday afternoon and evening to speak and show pictures to the Missionary Group which is gathering in the First Church parlors. The 22nd, I am scheduled to speak at the University of California in Los Angeles.

These contacts are helpful to me as I am working on the Theme of the Pastor and Christian Education.

When you send out your news sheet to Alaska missionaries, I hope that you will include my name on the mailing list.

Sincerely,

*Russell F. Pederson*

*Handwritten note:*  
Make your letter in 1940 and 1941

*Handwritten note:*  
10/14/40



NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS  
REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER  
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS  
REV. VERNE J. SWANSON  
HYDABURG, ALASKA

# PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
REV. E. E. KNUDSEN  
BRAGWAT, ALASKA

PENSIONS  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
October 27, 1940

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. King:

Thank you for the October "Alaska News Letter."

Herewith you will please find check for \$5.00, contribution from Miss Quessie Wylie, a high school girl of the First Presbyterian Church of Glendale, designated for the construction of the new boat to replace the M/s Princeton. This is a part of her tithe, and I will be pleased to hand her the receipt from your office.

October 23rd I received a letter from the Board of Pensions inquiring into my relations with the First Presbyterian Church of Wrangell. It seemed that <sup>they</sup> had received word from the Rev. Mr. Champlin that he was enroute to take up work at Wrangell, and they wanted to know about me.

I replied that I have not terminated my service at Wrangell, but am on furlough; and that the Wrangell Church and the Board are continuing salary payment arrangements as heretofore.

The secretary of Dr. E. G. Williams, the Western Representative of the Board of Pensions, Los Angeles, called my attention to a possible problem in connection with the pension percentage for the manse.

The Wrangell Church paid their pension payment to my credit up to March 31st. I have paid my pension payments on the basis of manse allowance from the Board.

Of course Mr. Champlin is occupying the Wrangell Manse and that is likely considered a part of his salary.

Instead of having that deducted from my salary allowance total in pensions, perhaps we might secure an allowance toward our ~~salary~~ manse costs. On the basis of \$200.25 a year for the Wrangell manse, that would be \$16.69 per month. That would be a nice help toward the \$37 a month we are paying here in Glendale.

This is not a formal request for rent allowance, but we do hope that our pension salary total is not out.

We are having many opportunities to speak on Alaska and National Missions, and you may be certain that we are pleased to do all we can in the way of Promotion of our Board's finances. I hope that considerable may be forwarded designated for both the new boat and the Board's other work.

Sincerely,

*Russell F. Pederson*  
Russell F. Pederson

October 28, 1940

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California

Dear Pederson:

I have been receiving your reports and reading of your activities in the University with a great deal of interest. I trust this year will prove to be most helpful and beneficial.

Word has come that Mr. and Mrs. Champlin have arrived on the field in Wrangell and have been well received. I know you will rejoice in this happy relationship.

I wish it were possible to sit down and have a few hours talk with you about a matter I have on my heart. It is so much easier to discuss things in person than write them down on paper. In a letter you can easily be misunderstood and the complete spirit can be changed. I am going to trust you to believe that this letter is being written in the spirit of one who is interested not only in you, but also in the work in Alaska.

It seems to me the time has come for you to think in terms of finding work in the States. You have given a good account of yourself in your work in Alaska. In my travel over the territory, everyone spoke of your sacrificial service. Everyone had some kind word to say about how you gave yourself completely to the work.

With this knowledge in mind and with certain facts that we gathered indicating that it was best for you to make a change, I am saying to you that at the close of this furlough we will have to terminate our relationship. There is no spot on your service record and you may count upon my being of help to you in securing some suitable field of service here in the States.

I am writing you this letter in order that you will have ample time to make the right contacts and locate yourself in a field where you will be happy in serving.

Most cordially yours,

EBK:DH

ALASKA



November 7, 1940

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California

Dear Pederson:

We are trying to arrange it so that you will take care of the pension payment on the usual basis of salary plus the manse. I see no reason to change unless we are compelled to do so.

Thank you for the \$5 contribution from Miss Quessie Wylie.

You will be interested in knowing that at our Board meeting in Concord it was decided to build the new "Princeton-Hall" boat in Sitka under the supervision of Sheldon Jackson School. A generous gift from Mr. Hall, in Texas, explains the additional name for the new boat.

We are at work clearing many details that need to be taken care of before any actual construction can begin. We are hopeful that the boat will be started not later than December first. I know you will be happy in this good news.

Cordially yours,

EBK:DH

NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS  
REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER  
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS  
REV. VERNE J. SWANSON  
HYDABURG, ALASKA

## PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
REV. E. E. KNUDSEN  
SEASWAY, ALASKA

PENSIONS  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
November 15, 1940

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. King:

Thank you for your letters. We appreciate them and the spirit in which you write.

Mrs. Pederson and I believe that you have made a wise decision in arranging for the "Princeton-Hall" to be built by the Sheldon Jackson School. You should have a good ship as well as the finest kind of publicity for Alaska. We hope that the construction may begin as soon as you expect.

During the past month I have had the pleasure of speaking to several groups, and I have emphasized possibilities with the use of an able craft. I hope that some of the groups have designated some benevolences for the "Princeton-Hall." Last Sunday I spoke morning and evening at the Ventura Presbyterian Church. In connection with the pictures the young people took up a special offering of better than \$8.00 which their pastor said would be forwarded to the Board for the boat.

I have one shot with the Kodachrome which shows the Princeton at the foot of Aaron Creek Falls. That section of my motion pictures brings a gasp right often. The glory of the scene touches folks and they cannot help visualizing the boat in her visitation of isolated localities.

Am glad to be able to report that the Wrangell Church has paid their portion of my salary up to October 31.

We had a nice letter from the Rev. Mr. Champlin, and we believe that he likes Wrangell. From letters received we judge that he is working hard. The Wrangell newspaper gives evidence that the 7th Day Adventists are making a strong attempt to reach Wrangell people, and we cannot help uttering a prayer for those folks as well as the Presbyterian missionary on the field. We realize that the one way to meet competition is to give the Gospel and develop Christian nurture.

May "Thanksgiving" be a season of spiritual strengthening to all of us, and God give you qualities and power to serve in your important position.

Sincerely,

*Russell F. Pederson*



309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
November 25th 1940

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. King:

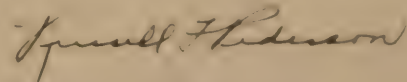
A Young People's Society has asked me whether they might buy the whistle for the new mission boat, and I told them I would write you for information as to the cost thereof.

The society would like to know the kind of whistle to be used on the new boat and have a little description. I told them that I do not know just what installation you intend to make, but I did suggest to them the importance of a good whistle which I thought would cost between \$50 and \$100.

The Princeton formerly had an effective whistle operated by air. It was later replaced with an electric whistle which was far from effective. I hope that a good whistle will be part of the equipment, and that this Glendale Society may have the privilege of furnishing it.

Should you have some other suggestions as to possible special gifts for particular equipment for the new boat would be glad to have the price thereof for appeals from time to time.

Sincerely,



Russell F Pederson

November 26, 1940

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California

Dear Pederson:

Thank you for your good note of November 15 and for the encouraging report you have sent in about the Ventura church. It is most heartening, the response that people have made toward the "Princeton-Hall".

I expect to be in Seattle December 9 in conference with Leslie Yaw and the architect there in Seattle. After that meeting, the boat will be started in a realistic way.

Cordially yours,

FBK:DH



December 8, 1940

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California

Dear Mr. Pederson:

October 28 I wrote you that it was our firm conviction and definite decision that our relationship should be terminated at the close of your present furlough. To date I have no word from you indicating that you have received that letter. If you have not received it, please let me know and I shall send you a copy.

In checking through our Alaskan budget we find it is going to be necessary to have you sever your relationship as of June 1, 1941. Our budget will not permit us to carry you through the allotted period of twelve months. I am therefore suggesting that you send a letter of resignation to the church at Wrangell and also a letter to me, dating the time of your resignation as of June 1, 1941.

There is no reason why this termination should not be designated as a resignation. It will make your record clear and, certainly, your service in Alaska entitles you to this. Please take care of these letters immediately.

Relative to the Young People's Society supplying the whistle for the new boat, I shall be glad to notify you later of the cost. After my Seattle visit I shall be in a position to give you something definite.

Cordially yours,

EBK:DH

NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS  
REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER  
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS  
REV. VERNE J. SWANSON  
HYDABURG, ALASKA

## PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
REV. E. E. KNUDSEN  
SKAGWAY, ALASKA

PENSIONS  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
December 4th, 1940

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. King:

The enclosed letter of Rev. E. E. Bromley will let you know the wishes of brethren in the Presbytery on the subject of motion pictures.

In past years we secured from or rather through your office motion pictures which you arranged to be itinerated in ALASKA PRESBYTERY for several weeks. Off hand I cannot state just what film was sent to Alaska. But if you were to let me know what is available, I am certain I could recall what had been up to Alaska recently.

If you can arrange for the loan of a projector, it would be of great help to the fields which do not have a machine.

I believe that the following fields have motion picture projectors or the missionaries have personally owned machines for 16 mm film:

Walter Soboleff has a Bell Howell 16mm.

Miss Lawrence has a machine which the Haines Church can use.

Mr. W. Leslie Yaw has a machine in connection with the Sheldon Jackson School and the Sitka church uses that.

In most of the other fields a projector is necessary with the film.

We have seen the Dr. Thorne "Alaska Pictures" twice, and we hear expressions of appreciation of the opportunity the Board is giving the California Churches in itinerating that fine film. I am certain that the missionaries in Alaska Presbytery would be grateful for an opportunity to see that film to which several contributed much patient labor.

Please try to get some film into Alaska Presbytery as early as possible for the churches feel the need of the challenge and the missionaries will appreciate the added stimulus.

Sincerely,

*Russell F. Pederson*  
Russell F. Pederson



NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS  
REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER  
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS  
REV. VERNE J. SWANSON  
HYDABURG, ALASKA

# PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
REV. E. E. KNUDSEN  
SEASIDE, ALASKA

PENSIONS  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
December 10, 1940

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. King:

*attached*

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of  
December 3rd.

Herewith you will find *✓* copy of my letter of resignation.

Please let me know what effect my resignation will have  
on the salary arrangements with the Wrangell Church and the Board  
of National Missions.

Also, please let me know definitely what to expect  
from the Board of National Missions in coverage of freight costs.  
My understanding is that the Board of National Missions pays the  
freight on personal possessions when a missionary who has served  
a number of years is relieved of work in Alaska.

We have been happy in our privilege of serving as  
missionaries with the Board of National Missions in Alaska  
since June 1923.

Sincerely,

*Russell F. Pederson*  
Russell F. Pederson

*W. J. H.  
12-11-40*

The Church Mission  
First Presbyterian Church  
Fairbanks, Alaska

324 Mission Road  
Lendale, California  
December 10, 1943

C/o Mrs. Josephine A. Mason, Clerk

Dear friends:

Greetings from the Pedersons.

"May the peace of God which passeth all understanding occupy your hearts and minds through the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ our Lord."

When Mrs. Pederson and I left Fairbanks, we expected to see you again next summer. We were praying for the progress of the Christian work in Fairbanks, and at the same time we were praying for God's guidance as to our continuance of ministry in Alaska.

We have had an answer to our prayer and believe that it is for the best interests of all for us to send a resignation.

To clear the way for you and your new minister to do far sighted constructive planning, I wish to tender my resignation to take effect June 1st, 1944. Our furlough was arranged to expire July 31st at which time we were to return to Fairbanks. To assist with the finances of the Board of National Missions, we are resigning as of June 1, 1944.

We have not considered another field, but are making full use of our furlough privilege in studies with the University of Southern California and the Board of Christian Education in Los Angeles.

In the days to come our hearts will be with you, and we are continuing to pray with you for strengthening of your hearts through a fuller surrender to Jesus Christ and maturity in His discipleship.

We do appreciate your fellowship in prayer, and we wish you a Merry Christmas and a successful New Year.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson



December 14, 1940

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. R.F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I have your letter of December 4 in regard to motion pictures available for use in Alaska Presbytery.

Our Publicity Department inform us that last year you used the two pictures, "A Trail of Light" and "Sky Lines". This year the following motion pictures can be placed at the disposal of Alaska Presbytery for itineration:

"Metropolis"  
"New Indian Trails"  
"The Rise of the Race"

Enclosed is a booklet on the motion pictures so that you can see just what they cover. Do you suggest that all three pictures be sent to Mr. Bromley? A small projector can also be sent with them.

The new Alaskan motion pictures can not be released for use in Alaska Presbytery until after March 15.

Also enclosed is the receipt for Miss Quessie Wylie's gift of \$5 toward the "Princeton-Hall" boat. The delay in issuing the receipt was due to the fact that a ruling had to be made in our Treasurer's office as to the proper credit for these gifts.

Cordially yours,

HEW:DH

Enclosures 3

Mr. Bromley's letter of 11/22/40 returned to R.F.P.

NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS  
REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER  
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS  
REV. VERNE J. SWANSON  
HYDABURG, ALASKA

## PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
REV. E. E. KNUDSEN  
SPAGWAY, ALASKA

PENSIONS  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
December 16th, 1940

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. King:

Thank you for your letter of the 14th, and the information concerning the projector and moving picture film available for Alaska Presbytery:

My suggestion<sup>is</sup> that you send the projector and two films to Rev. E. E. Bromley. That you send the third film to Rev. Walter Soboleff who can use it and forward it to Mr. Bromley. Mr. Bromley can arrange the itineration of the film to the best advantage.

Am pleased to hear that there is a possibility of the "Alaskan Motion Pictures" going up to Alaska after March 15th because I know how hungry the workers are to see the results of Dr. Thorne's visit.

Glendale is having some Wrangell "fall weather" just now, rain and wind.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

*Russell F. Pederson*  
Russell F. Pederson

*On thinking your letter through, I believe Alaska has had "New Indian Trails" would suggest you substitute something else such as "A Friendly Hand"*

*Consider  
1940  
Metlakatla  
Alaska  
+ projector sent to  
Rev. E. E. Bromley  
"A Friendly Hand"  
to the other Alaska*



December 17, 1940

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California

Dear Pederson:

I can not give you a description of the whistle for the "Princeton-Hall", but I can give you the assurance that we will reserve for the Glendale Young People's Society the privilege of installing the whistle.

According to the contract, the cost will be near \$100, so I feel you would be safe in giving the figure at \$100. Later on when I have a more detailed description, I shall send it to you.

Cordially yours,

EBK:DH

December 17, 1940

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California

Dear Mr. Pederson:

Thank you for the very fine spirit in which you have sent in your resignation. The way you have reacted is double proof of the fact that you are willing to surrender yourself in order to glorify the Christ. Any way I can be of help to you in locating a church, you need only to send me the word.

Your resignation will have no effect on the salary arrangements with the Wrangell church and the Board of National Missions up to June 1, 1941. Of course, when the resignation becomes effective, the salaries will end.

You are correct in understanding that the Board of National Missions will pay freight costs on personal belongings from the field to Seattle. I am sorry we can not go any further. When you have your personal effects sent in, let me have the bill and we will cover it with a check.

Cordially yours,

EBK:DH

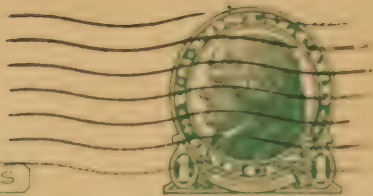
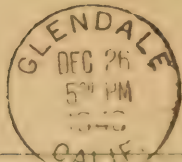


check mailed 12/24/40 to you  
Dear Dr King,

309 Mission Road  
Glendale, Cal.  
Dec 24, 1940

We do not like to trouble you, but  
our check which usually comes about  
the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> has not arrived, and  
I thought it might have been  
lost or miscarried. This is the  
December check

We have been looking for it for  
Christmas, but have gotten by for the  
time. If the check was mailed lat, it is O.K. Sincerely  
Russett & Allen



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Dr Everett B King  
156 Fifth Ave  
New York, N. Y.



January 2, 1941

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California

Dear Mr. Pederson:

Upon receipt of your card of December 26 we investigated and found that your December check was mailed to you December 24 when your voucher was received. We hope it arrived without further delay.

You will be glad to know that we shipped to Rev. E.E. Bromley, Hoonah, Alaska, the motion pictures "Metropolis" and "The Rise of the Race", together with a small projector for use among the churches in Alaska. To Mr. Soboleff we sent the motion picture "A Friendly Hand".

Hoping you are well, and with cordial good wishes for a happy New Year, I am,

Sincerely yours,

HEB:DH

NATIONAL MISSIONS  
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.  
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS  
REV. JACKSON L. WEBSTER  
SITKA, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS  
REV. VERNE J. SWANSON  
HYDABURG, ALASKA

## PRESBYTERY OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
REV. E. E. KNUDSEN  
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METLAKATLA, ALASKA

STATED CLERK  
REV. ALFRED D. SWIGGER  
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
January 7th, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. King:

Yesterday I had the privilege of addressing the Presbyterian of Los Angeles on Alaska Missions, and am glad to report that the women of this large Presbytery are much interested in that work of our National Board.

While speaking of the development of the field and the construction of the "Princeton-Hall" I mentioned how much the "whistling in" of the mission boat meant to all the communities of southeastern Alaska and mentioned the \$100 installation cost. Immediately at the close of my address several people addressed the chairman with a desire to have a part in supplying the whistle for the new boat, and they then and there almost collected enough cash. In a few days I expect that you will be receiving a check from the Los Angeles Presbyterian for the whistle, and I believe that other interest will be evidenced.

This Saturday I am making a five hour trip to the Bakersfield district to speak Sunday morning at Strathmore and in the evening at Terra Bella. Am speaking in Glendale the evening of the 19th, in Hollywood the 28th and the Monrovia missionary society meeting February 27th. Expect there will be many more dates coming in between. I am thankful to be able to present Alaska and our National Missions ministry to that field.

Today a Mr. Phillips who recently returned from the Korean field came to me to enquire about Alaska mission possibilities. I told him that I knew nothing about the field arrangements and that he could find out everything from you. He seems to be a very fine man, but I wonder whether he would be satisfied with a \$1535 salary with addition of nothing for his children when he has been receiving \$1800 and allowance for each of his children from the Foreign Board.

I expect to register for the second semester in the University of Southern California and continue available for promotional work. Let me tell you that it is not easy to think of not returning to Alaska.

Would you like to have me continue to endeavor to interest groups in specific equipment or projects? If so, it would be helpful to know just what claims to suggest to them.

Sincerely,

*Russell F. Pederson*



January 21, 1941

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California

Dear Mr. Pederson:

By all means I want you to continue to enlist the churches and individuals in the specific equipment projects for the new PRINCETON-HALL. You are doing a fine piece of work and making a real contribution!

The following objectives might have an interesting and attractive appeal:

1- Shipmate range with polished top and de luxe oil burner, 18 gallons of fuel . . . . .	\$107.15
1- Galvanized stockless anchor, 250 pounds . . . . .	38.75
1- Galvanized stockless anchor, 150 pounds . . . . .	23.25
Steering gear assembly . . . . .	50.00
1- Steering wheel, 30" diameter, with brass hub . . . . .	28.00

If you find someone who is interested in a little bit more money, you might sell him or them the idea of paying for our 6-cylinder Gray marine Diesel engine with 3:1 reduction gear, costing \$3,959.50.

Cordially yours,

EBK:DH

February 7, 1941

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California

Dear Mr. Pederson:

At last we received the bill for your typewriter, the total cost of which was \$42.65 the 65 cents covering the expressage.

We used the amount of \$42 which you had already sent, and to cover the additional 65 cents we arranged with our Treasurer to deduct 65 cents from your February salary check.

Hoping that this will be entirely satisfactory, I am with cordial good wishes

Sincerely yours,

HEW:TTL

ALASKA



309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
February 14th, 1941

Dr. Everett E. Ling  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Ling:

Your letter of 11th has been received. Of course your deduction of 65% (on the typewriter order) from the February check is satisfactory. I do appreciate your securing this nice machine for me at that price of \$42.65.

The past month has been full of opportunity and joy in service. I think of the following as among the most important.

January 20th, I attended the Stewardship Conference in South Hollywood and met the leaders. Dr. Chappel seems to be an able leader. This was my introduction to him. Attended his class before the panel discussion.

The 19th of January I showed my Alaska motion pictures to the Young People's Society of the Glendale Presbyterian Church, and the 21st addressed the Santa Ana Presbyterian Missionary Society. The president of the California State Synodical is a member of the Santa Ana Society so I felt like I was getting acquainted with real representatives of Christian missions.

The 28th I had the pleasure of speaking to the very large missionary society of the Hollywood Presbyterian Church, the Church to which Dr. Louis Evans is coming as Pastor. At the luncheon I had the real privilege of conversation with the Mother of Dr. Evans. I felt that I was having a rare treat in such fellowship.

The 29th I was called to Riverside to conduct the funeral service of one of our Juneau, Alaska, friends. We felt that they needed friendly comfort and were pleased to make the trip to help the widow. I had baptized their two children while they lived in Wrangell.

The 30th gave me my first opportunity to attend a Moderator's Dinner. Dr. Young gave a strong message and Los Angeles Presbytery indicated a splendid response.

The 31st, our family attended the Youth Banquet in Glendale which was the climax of the observance of Youth Week. We saw what Youth Week can mean in a great and spiritual church.

The 1st of February I gave the devotional for the Glendale Junior College Bible Club, the 2nd spoke to the Sunday School of the Glendale Presbyterian Church in Los Angeles. They have a strong, young pastor who is an able preacher. The 6th saw us at the Eagle Rock Missionary Society meeting with motion pictures and a message.

February 8 and 9, the Westminster Societies of Burbank and Glendale met at the Big Bear Conference grounds and they gave me two opportunities to speak. The 13th was our opportunity at the Alhambra Presbyterian Missionary Society.

We are thankful to be able to present missions in Alaska as well as speak a word of witness for our Lord and Savior. Sincerely,

Russell F. Hedman



February 25, 1941

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California

Dear Pederson:

Thank you for your good report of February 14th. Certainly you have been active in promoting the cause of Alaska during the past days. Please let me know whether or not you have any more prospects for making a definite project in equipping the Princeton-Hall boat. All reports indicate that the work is slowly progressing on the construction of the boat.

Cordially yours,

EBK:B

ALASKA



309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
April 15th, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. King:

MONTHLY NARRATIVE

We have had another month of great and real privilege.

In the Presbyterian Churches of Sumner, Pleasanton, Glendale, South Hollywood and Los Angeles we have enjoyed our opportunity to present Presbyterian Missions in Alaska with colored slides, motion pictures and addresses.

The Presbyterian student group at the University of Southern California gave me the responsibility of leading a conference on "What Is a Christian?" It was a time of hearing their experiences as well as presenting Christian characters we have met.

We were thankful to be in Glendale while the Christian Preaching Mission was having meetings. We believe that the program in the light of experience as well as of spiritual strengthening will be helpful for the future. We accepted the invitation to do some of the visitation following the meetings, and that proved helpful to us. We feel that we know better how the churches and groups are going about bringing decisions and professions of faith.

The Boy Scouts of America invited me to go with them for the encampment held outside Palm Springs in which Scout troops from Burbank, Montrose and Glendale participated. That fellowship with the scout age boys in which we all slept on the ground and had a part in the cooking is worth while. We had a lecture on date culture which helps to make oriental life more of a reality. The desert was aglow with the unusual cactus blooms and other desert flowers. We had heard of the desert beauty, and now we have been thrilled with the sight of some of it.

The Sunrise Services Easter Sunday morning were all that the young people claimed they would be. We were in a great sea of people on Mount Forest Lawn. It is said that there were fifty one thousand at that one service. The spiritual was evident and the power was manifest. Mrs. Pederson and I were so glad to be able to attend this great Easter gathering. We had the first Sunrise service in Wrangell, Alaska, in 1932, and each year the interest grew. Those services were held in the Presbyterian Church. We can see the advantage of the service in the church, yet there is a glory in the outdoor gathering, and particularly this one in which the sun broke through just as the choir was singing, "He Arose."

We had the privilege this month of leading two young people about to be married to accept Christ as their Savior and start their new estate with Christ as the head of their home.

We are praying that God will guide us to where He can use us.

Sincerely,

*Russell F. Pederson*



309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California  
April 17th, 1941

Dr. Everett B. King  
Board of National Missions  
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. King:

Thank you for your helpful letter of the 14th in which you enquired as to the section we favor as to location and the type of work we wish.

As to the section in which we prefer: we have felt that we would like to be located somewhere in the Coast Region of Washington, Oregon or California; but we are not insisting as to State or section. We look to you for counsel as to where you consider that we may be of the best service and ministry.

As to the type of work: again we desire your counsel. You are well acquainted with the work in which we have been engaged and in which we found happiness and satisfaction.

During this furlough we have sought to improve ourselves with visitation of many churches, fellowship in classes of all ages, and study of particular courses; and we believe that this winter of study coupled with our several years of missionary ministry has prepared us for further and more effective ministry.

My study included the following courses at the University:

1. Bible Study: "Old Testament Analysis," "Synoptic Gospels," and "Life and Epistles of Paul"
2. "Theory and Principles of Pastoral Counselling"
3. "Seminar in Christian Education"
4. "Seminar on the Pastor as the Director of Christian Education"
5. Intern C. of Rel. Ed. "Jesus, the Master Teacher"--Pres Hdqs, Los A.  
"Art of Leadership with Jr High, High and College Ages"
6. "Medical Information" and "Religious and Social Reconstruction"

Mrs. Pederson's study: "Jesus, the Master Teacher" and in addition in Pres Hdqs, Los A., "Our Christian Beliefs" Glendale Pres. Church course on "Guiding the Religious Life of Primary Children" and "Visual Education"

At times I have thought of service as a Sunday School missionary. It appears to me that that type of work would allow us to establish our home where educational facilities are good, and I could work out from that center. Mrs. Pederson frequently could go out to assist in Conferences and Vacation Bible Schools, etc. From what I know of that type of service it appears to me a field of opportunity.

One of my convictions is that Presbyterian supplies: Sunday School materials and books could advantageously be presented to the churches of the various areas. Should the Department of Sunday School Missions Consider such a project along with the other responsibilities, we would be found enthusiastic and ready to cooperate because we do see the need.

We do thank you for your consideration and willingness to assist us in finding the field and type of service.

Sincerely,

*Russell F. Pederson*



April 21, 1941

Rev. Mr. Russell F. Pederson  
309 Mission Road  
Glendale, California

Dear Pederson:

Enclosed I am sending a Manual for the  
Presbyterian Sunday School Missionaries. After reading  
the Manual you will get a clear picture of what our  
missionaries are trying to do.

We do not now have any openings in the West.  
If you want to enter into this missionary field it  
will be necessary for you come East of the Mississippi  
or possibly in Oklahoma. If your interest would  
warrant such a move let me know and I shall be glad to  
give you serious consideration.

Cordially yours,

EBK:B  
Enc. Manual

ALASKA